

State Of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

April 10, 1983, was a cool 56 degrees, and the Big Sioux River was running high, cold and fast from the spring runoff--a good day for an exciting canoe trip. That's what Jack Bryan and his family were anticipating, but that canoe trip almost ended in tragedy when they got sideways in the current, hit a log, and overturned. Jack got his wife and three-year-old son ashore, but Jack's brother, Hodge, unable to swim, was left clinging to the canoe and calling for help as it drifted down the river.

David Syverson and three friends responded to Hodge's cries. As one of the other boys swam out to the canoe, David and the other two boys formed a human chain into the river to help pull them out when they got close to shore.

After everyone was out of the water, David and the other boys applied first-aid to the Bryan family by treating them for shock and hypothermia while waiting for the ambulance to arrive.

Under the circumstances of that cool April day, the teamwork of David and his friends and their quick thinking in administering correct first-aid techniques were vital in saving Hodge Bryan's life and in preventing any serious illness or injury to the Bryan family.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the valor of

DAVID SYVERSON

and I join his family and friends in congratulating him for responding to a life or death situation with intelligence and life-saving skill.



ATTEST:

Alce Kunder
ALICE KUNDER, SECRETARY OF STATE

BY *Jay D. Vogt*
JAY D. VOGT, DEPUTY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Third Day of September, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Three

William J. Janklow
WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, GOVERNOR

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